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WEST'S LOUISIANA STATUTES ANNOTATED
LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES
TITLE 49. STATE ADMINISTRATION
CHAPTER 13. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE
§ 950. Title and form of citation

This Chapter shall be known as the Administrative Procedure Act and may be cited as the Administrative Procedure Act.

CREDIT(S)

Added by Acts 1982, No. 129, § 1.

<General Materials (GM) - References, Annotations, or Tables>

CROSS REFERENCES

Community action agencies, rules and regulations, see R.S. 23:66.
Consumer credit law, administrative hearings, see R.S. 9:3556.
Fire prevention and protection, board of review, conformity to this act, see R.S. 40:1578.1.
Hazardous liquids, definition, see R.S. 30:702.
Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority, powers and duties, see R.S. 3:266 et seq.
Motorcycle safety, operator training program, see R.S. 17:282.
Pesticide control, rules and regulations, see R.S. 3:3206.
Preservation of educational process, rules and regulations, see R.S. 17:3105.
Sanitary code, adoption or amendment by state health officer, see R.S. 40:4.
Subsidies for adopted children, rules and regulations, see R.S. 46:1790 et seq.
Vital records registry, see R.S. 40:33.

LAW REVIEW AND JOURNAL COMMENTARIES

Administrative practice under the 1974 Constitution: A "silver anniversary" review. David A. Marcello, 62

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TITLE 49. STATE ADMINISTRATION
CHAPTER 13. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE
§ 953. Procedure for adoption of rules

A. Prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of any rule, the agency shall:

(1)(a) Give notice of its intended action and a copy of the proposed rules at least ninety days prior to taking action on the rule. The notice shall include:

(i) A statement of either the terms or substance of the intended action or a description of the subjects and issues involved;

(ii) A statement, approved by the legislative fiscal office, of the fiscal impact of the intended action, if any; or a statement, approved by the legislative fiscal office, that no fiscal impact will result from such proposed action;

(iii) A statement, approved by the legislative fiscal office, of the economic impact of the intended action, if any; or a statement, approved by the legislative fiscal office, that no economic impact will result from such proposed action;

(iv) The name of the person within the agency who has the responsibility for responding to inquiries about the intended action;

(v) The time when, the place where, and the manner in which interested persons may present their views thereon; and

(vi) A statement that the intended action complies with the statutory law administered by the agency, including a citation of the enabling legislation.

(vii) A statement indicating whether the agency has prepared a preamble which explains the basis and rationale for the intended action, summarizes the information and data supporting the intended action, and provides information concerning how the preamble may be obtained.

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(viii) A statement concerning the impact on family formation, stability, and autonomy as set forth in R.S. 49:972.

(b)(i) The notice shall be published at least once in the Louisiana Register and shall be submitted with a full text of the proposed rule to the Louisiana Register at least one hundred days prior to the date the agency will take action on the rule.

(ii) Upon publication of the notice, copies of the full text of the proposed rule shall be available from the agency proposing the rule upon written request within two working days.

(c) Notice of the intent of an agency to adopt, amend, or repeal any rule and the approved fiscal and economic impact statements, as provided for in this Subsection, shall be mailed to all persons who have made timely request of the agency for such notice, which notice and statements shall be mailed at the earliest possible date, and in no case later than ten days after the date when the proposed rule change is submitted to the Louisiana Register.

(d) For the purpose of timely notice as required by this Paragraph, the date of notice shall be deemed to be the date of publication of the issue of the Louisiana Register in which the notice appears, such publication date to be the publication date as stated on the outside cover or the first page of said issue.

(2) (a) Afford all interested persons reasonable opportunity to submit data, views, comments, or arguments, orally or in writing. In case of substantive rules, opportunity for oral presentation or argument must be granted if requested within twenty days after publication of the rule as provided in this Subsection, by twenty-five persons, by a governmental subdivision or agency, by an association having not less than twenty-five members, or by a committee of either house of the legislature to which the proposed rule change has been referred under the provisions of R.S. 49:968.

(b) (i) Make available to all interested persons copies of any rule intended for adoption, amendment, or repeal from the time the notice of its intended action is published in the Louisiana Register. Any hearing pursuant to the provisions of this Paragraph shall be held no earlier than thirty-five days and no later than forty days after the publication of the Louisiana Register in which the notice of the intended action appears. The agency shall consider fully all written and oral comments and submissions respecting the proposed rule.

(ii) The agency shall issue a response to comments and submissions describing the principal reasons for and against adoption of any amendments or changes suggested in the written or oral comments and submissions. In addition to the response to comments, the agency may prepare a preamble explaining the basis and rationale for the rule, identifying the data and evidence upon which the rule is based, and responding to comments and submissions. Such preamble and response to comments and submissions shall be furnished to the respective legislative oversight subcommittees at least five days prior to the day the legislative oversight subcommittee hearing is to be held on the proposed rule, and shall be made available to interested persons no later than one day following their submission to the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee. If no legislative oversight hearing is to be held, the agency

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shall issue a response to comments and submissions and preamble, if any, to any person who presented comments or submissions on the rule and to any requesting person not later than fifteen days prior to the time of publication of the final rule.

(iii) The agency shall, upon request, make available to interested persons the report submitted pursuant to R.S. 49:968(D) no later than one working day following the submittal of such report to the legislative oversight subcommittees.

(3)(a) For the purposes of this Subsection, the statement of fiscal impact shall be prepared by the proposing agency and submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Office for its approval. Such fiscal impact statement shall include a statement of the receipt, expenditure, or allocation of state funds or funds of any political subdivision of the state.

(b) For the purposes of this Subsection, the statement of economic impact shall be prepared by the proposing agency and submitted to the Legislative Fiscal Office for its approval. Such economic impact statements shall include an estimate of the cost to the agency to implement the proposed action, including the estimated amount of paperwork; an estimate of the cost or economic benefit to all persons directly affected by the proposed action; an estimate of the impact of the proposed action on competition and the open market for employment, if applicable; and a detailed statement of the data, assumptions, and methods used in making each of the above estimates.

B. (1) If an agency finds that an imminent peril to the public health, safety, or welfare requires adoption of a rule upon shorter notice than that provided in Subsection A of this Section and within five days of adoption states in writing to the governor of the state of Louisiana, the attorney general of Louisiana, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the president of the Senate, and the Department of the State Register, its reasons for that finding, it may proceed without prior notice or hearing or upon any abbreviated notice and hearing that it finds practicable, to adopt an emergency rule. The provisions of this Paragraph also shall apply to the extent necessary to avoid sanctions or penalties from the United States, or to avoid a budget deficit in the case of medical assistance programs or to secure new or enhanced federal funding in medical assistance programs. The agency statement of its reason for finding it necessary to adopt an emergency rule shall include specific reasons why the failure to adopt the rule on an emergency basis would result in imminent peril to the public health, safety, or welfare, or specific reasons why the emergency rule meets other criteria provided in this Paragraph for adoption of an emergency rule.

(2) Notice of the emergency rule shall be mailed to all persons who have made timely request of the agency for notice of rule changes, which notice shall be mailed within five days of adoption of the emergency rule. The office of the state register may omit from the Louisiana Register any emergency rule the publication of which would be unduly cumbersome, expensive, or otherwise inexpedient, if the emergency rule in printed or processed form is made available on application to the adopting agency, and if the Louisiana Register contains a notice stating the general subject matter of the omitted emergency rule, the reasons for the finding of the emergency submitted by the agency, and stating how a copy thereof may be obtained.

(3) The validity of an emergency rule or fee may be determined in an action for declaratory judgment in the district court of the parish in which the agency is located. The agency shall be made a party to the action. An action for a

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declaratory judgment under this Paragraph may be brought only by a person to whom such rule or fee is applicable or who would be adversely affected by such rule or fee and only on the grounds that the rule or fee does not meet the criteria for adoption of an emergency rule as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. The court shall declare the rule or fee invalid if it finds that there is not sufficient evidence that such rule or fee must be adopted on an emergency basis for one or more of the reasons for adoption of an emergency rule as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the emergency rule or fee shall remain in effect until such declaratory judgment is rendered. The provisions of R.S. 49:963 shall not apply to any action brought pursuant to this Paragraph. The provisions of this Paragraph are in addition to R.S. 49:963 and shall not limit any action pursuant to R.S. 49:963.

(4)(a) Within sixty days after adoption of an emergency rule or fee, an oversight subcommittee of either house may conduct a hearing to review the emergency rule or fee and make a determination of whether such rule or fee meets the criteria for an emergency rule or fee as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection and those determinations as provided in R.S. 49:968(D)(3). If within such time period an oversight subcommittee finds an emergency rule or fee unacceptable, it shall prepare a written report containing a copy of the proposed rule or proposed fee action and a summary of the determinations made by the committee and transmit copies thereof as provided in R.S. 49:968(F)(2).

(b) Within sixty days after adoption of an emergency rule or fee, the governor may review such rule or fee and make the determinations as provided in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph. If within such time period the governor finds an emergency rule or fee unacceptable, he shall prepare a written report as provided in Subparagraph (a) and transmit copies thereof to the agency proposing the rule change and the Louisiana Register no later than four days after the governor makes his determination.

(c) Upon receipt by the agency of a report as provided in either Subparagraph (a) or (b) of this Paragraph, the rule or fee shall be nullified and shall be without effect.

C. An interested person may petition an agency requesting the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule. Each agency shall prescribe by rule the form for petitions and the procedure for their submission, considerations, and disposition. Within ninety days after submission of a petition, the agency shall either deny the petition in writing, stating reasons for the denial, or shall initiate rule making proceedings in accordance with this Chapter.

D. When a rule is adopted, amended, or repealed in compliance with federal regulations, the adopting agency's notice of intent and the actual text of the rule as published in the Louisiana Register, must be accompanied by a citation of the Federal Register issue in which the determining federal regulation is published, such citation to be by volume, number, date, and page number.

E. Beginning January 1, 1987, no agency shall adopt, amend, or repeal any rule if the accompanying fiscal impact statement approved by the Legislative Fiscal Office indicates that said rule change would result in any increase in the expenditure of state funds, unless said rule is adopted as an emergency rule pursuant to the requirements of this Section or unless the legislature has specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the expenditures associated

with said rule change.

F. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter to the contrary, if the Department of Environmental Quality proposes a rule that is not identical to a federal law or regulation or is not required for compliance with a federal law or regulation, the Department of Environmental Quality shall adopt and promulgate such proposed rule separately from any proposed rule or set of proposed rules that is identical to a federal law or regulation or required for compliance with a federal law or regulation. However, if the only difference between the proposed rule or set of proposed rules and the corresponding federal law or regulation is a proposed fee, the Department of Environmental Quality shall not be required to adopt and promulgate such proposed rule or set of proposed rules separately. For purposes of this Subsection, the term "identical" shall mean that the proposed rule has the same content and meaning as the corresponding federal law or regulation.

(2) When the Department of Environmental Quality proposes a rule that is not identical to a corresponding federal law or regulation, or is not required for compliance with a federal law or regulation, the Department of Environmental Quality shall provide a brief summary which explains the basis and rationale for the proposed rule, identifies the data and evidence, if any, upon which the rule is based, and identifies any portions of the proposed rule that differ from federal law or regulation if there is a federal law or regulation which is not identical but which corresponds substantially to the proposed rule. Such summary shall be provided along with the notice of intent and shall be published in the Louisiana Register or made available along with the proposed rule as provided in Item A(1)(b)(ii) of this section. The Department of Environmental Quality may also provide such a summary when proposing a rule identical to a corresponding federal law or regulation or proposing a rule which is required for compliance with federal law or regulation to explain the basis and rationale for the proposed rule.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Chapter to the contrary, when the Department of Environmental Quality proposes a rule that is identical to a federal law or regulation applicable in Louisiana, except as provided in Paragraph (4) of this Subsection, it may use the following procedure for the adoption of the rule:

(a) The department shall publish a notice of the proposed rule at least sixty days prior to taking action on the rule as provided below. The notice, which may include an explanation of the basis and rationale for the proposed rule, shall include all of the following:

(i) A statement of either the terms or substance of the intended action or a description of the subjects and issues involved.

(ii) A statement that no fiscal or economic impact will result from the proposed rule.

(iii) The name of the person within the department who has responsibility for responding to inquiries about the intended action.

(iv) The time, place, and manner in which interested persons may present their views thereon including the notice for a public hearing required by R.S. 30:2011(D)(1).

(v) A statement that the intended action complies with the law administered by the department, including a citation of the specific provision, or provisions, of law which authorize the proposed rule.

(b) Notice of the proposed rule shall be published at least once in the Louisiana Register and shall be submitted with a full text of the proposed rule to the Louisiana Register at least seventy days prior to the date the department proposes to formally adopt the rule. The office of the state register may omit from the Louisiana Register any such proposed rule the publication of which would be unduly cumbersome, expensive, or otherwise inexpedient, if the Louisiana Register contains a notice stating the general subject matter of the omitted proposed rule, the process being employed by the department for adoption of the proposed rule, and stating how a copy of the proposed rule may be obtained.

(c) Notice of the intent of the department to adopt the rule shall be mailed to all persons who have made timely request for such notice, which notice shall be mailed at the earliest possible date, and in no case later than ten days after the date when the proposed rule is submitted to the Louisiana Register.

(d) For the purpose of timely notice as required by this Paragraph, the date of notice shall be deemed to be the date of publication of the issue of the Louisiana Register in which the notice appears, such publication date to be the publication date as stated on the outside cover or the first page of said issue.

(e) The department shall afford all interested persons an opportunity to submit data, views, comments, or arguments related to the proposed rule, in writing, during a period of no less than thirty days. The department shall consider fully all written comments and submissions respecting the proposed rule.

(f) The department shall make available to all interested persons copies of the proposed rule from the time the notice of its adoption is published in the Louisiana Register.

(g) The department shall issue a response to comments and submissions describing the principal reasons for and against adoption of any amendments or changes suggested in the written comments and submissions and specifically addressing any assertion that the proposed rule is not identical to the federal law or regulation upon which it is based. The department shall issue such response to comments and submissions to any person who presented comments or submissions on the rule and to any requesting person no later than fifteen days prior to the time of publication of the final rule.

(h) No later than fifteen days prior to the time of publication of the final rule in the Louisiana Register, the

secretary or any authorized assistant secretary of the department shall (i) certify, under oath, to the governor of the state of Louisiana, the attorney general of Louisiana, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the president of the Senate, the chairman of the House Committee on the Environment, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality, and the office of the state register that the proposed rule is identical to a specified federal law or regulation applicable in Louisiana and (ii) furnish the chairman of the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality and the chairman of the House Committee on the Environment the response to comments and submissions required under Subparagraph (g) of this Paragraph, together with a copy of the notice required under Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph.

(i) Unless specifically requested, in writing, by the chairman of the House Committee on the Environment or the chairman of the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality within ten days of the certification provided under Subparagraph (h) of this Paragraph, there shall be no legislative oversight of the proposed rule. If, however, legislative oversight is properly requested, R.S. 49:968 and Items A(2)(b)(ii) and (iii) of this Section, shall thereafter apply with respect to the proposed rule.

(j) In the absence of legislative oversight, the proposed rule may be adopted by the Department of Environmental Quality no earlier than sixty days, nor later than twelve months, after the official notice of the proposed rule was published in the Louisiana Register; provided, however, that the proposed rule shall be effective upon its publication in the Louisiana Register, said publication to be subsequent to the act of adoption.

(4) The procedures set forth in Paragraph (3) of this Subsection for the adoption by the Department of Environmental Quality of rules identical to federal laws or regulations applicable in Louisiana shall not be available for the adoption of any rules creating or increasing fees.

G. (1) Prior to or concurrent with publishing notice of any proposed policy, standard, or regulation pursuant to Subsection A of this Section and prior to promulgating any policy, standard, or final regulation whether pursuant to R.S. 49:954 or otherwise under the authority of the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, R.S. 30:2001 et seq., the Department of Environmental Quality, after August 15, 1995, shall publish a report, or a summary of the report, in the Louisiana Register which includes:

(a) A statement identifying the specific risks being addressed by the policy, standard, or regulation and any published, peer-reviewed scientific literature used by the department to characterize the risks.

(b) A comparative analysis of the risks addressed by the policy, standard, or regulation relative to other risks of a similar or analogous nature to which the public is routinely exposed.

(c) An analysis based upon published, readily available peer-reviewed scientific literature, describing how the proposed and final policy, standard, or regulation will advance the purpose of protecting human health or the environment against the specified identified risks.

(d) An analysis and statement that, based on the best readily available data, the proposed or final policy, standard, or regulation presents the most cost- effective method practically achievable to produce the benefits intended regarding the risks identified in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph.

(2) No regulation shall become effective until the secretary complies with the requirements of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

(3) This provision shall not apply in those cases where the policy, standard, or regulation:

(a) Is required for compliance with a federal law or regulation.

(b) Is identical to a federal law or regulation applicable in Louisiana.

(c) Will cost the state and affected persons less than one million dollars, in the aggregate, to implement.

(d) Is an emergency rule under Subsection B of this Section.

(4) For purposes of this Subsection, the term "identical" shall mean that the proposed rule has the same content and meaning as the corresponding federal law or regulation.

(5) In complying with this Section, the department shall consider any scientific and economic studies or data timely provided by interested parties which are relevant to the issues addressed herein and the proposed policy, standard, or regulation being considered.

CREDIT(S)

Added by Acts 1966, No. 382, § 3, eff. July 1, 1967. Amended by Acts 1974, No. 284, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1975; Acts 1975, No. 730, § 1; Acts 1976, No. 279, § 1; Acts 1978, No. 252, § 1; Acts 1980, No. 392, § 1; Acts 1983, No. 713, § 1; Acts 1984, No. 953, § 1; Acts 1985, No. 371, § 1, eff. July 9, 1985; Acts 1986, 1st Ex.Sess., No. 11, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1987; Acts 1987, No. 853, § 1; Acts 1990, No. 1063, § 1; Acts 1990, No. 1085, § 1, eff. July 31, 1990; Acts 1991, No. 104, § 1, eff. June 30, 1991; Acts 1993, No. 119, § 1; Acts 1993, No. 274, § 1; Acts 1993, No. 386, § 1; Acts 1995, No. 512, § 1; Acts 1995, No. 642, § 1; Acts 1995, No. 1057, § 1, eff. June 29, 1995; Acts 1996, 1st Ex.Sess., No. 36, § 3, eff. May 7, 1996; Acts 1999, No. 1183, § 1.

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TITLE 49. STATE ADMINISTRATION
CHAPTER 13. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE
§ 961. Licenses

A. When the grant, denial, or renewal of a license is required to be preceded by notice and opportunity for hearing, the provisions of this Chapter concerning adjudication shall apply.

B. When a licensee has made timely and sufficient application for the renewal of a license or a new license with reference to any activity of a continuing nature, the existing license shall not expire until the application has been finally determined by the agency, and, in case the application is denied or the terms of the new license limited, until the last day for seeking review of the agency order or a later date fixed by order of the reviewing court.

C. No revocation, suspension, annulment, or withdrawal of any license is lawful unless, prior to the institution of agency proceedings, the agency gives notice by mail to the licensee of facts or conduct which warrant the intended action, and the licensee is given an opportunity to show compliance with all lawful requirements for the retention of the license. If the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action. These proceedings shall be promptly instituted and determined.

CREDIT(S)

Added by Acts 1966, No. 382, § 11, eff. July 1, 1967.

<General Materials (GM) - References, Annotations, or Tables>

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

2003 Main Volume

In subsec. A of this section or set forth in Acts 1966, No. 382, "this Act" was changed to "this Chapter" pursuant to the statutory revision authority of the Louisiana State Law Institute.

Uniform Law:

This section is similar to § 14 of the Uniform State Administrative Procedure Act. See 15 Uniform Laws

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WEST'S LOUISIANA STATUTES ANNOTATED
LOUISIANA REVISED STATUTES
TITLE 49. STATE ADMINISTRATION
CHAPTER 13-B. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
PART A. ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
§ 991. Creation of division of administrative law

The division of administrative law, hereafter referred to as "division", is created in the Department of State Civil Service.

CREDIT(S)

Added by Acts 1995, No. 739, § 2, eff. Oct. 1, 1996.

<General Materials (GM) - References, Annotations, or Tables>

SUPERSEDURE

<For effect of the provisions of Acts 1995, No. 947 and Acts 1995, No. 739 as regards administrative procedure, see note preceding this section.>

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

2003 Main Volume

Sections 3 and 4 of Acts 1995, No. 739 (§ 2 of which enacted Chapter 13-B, including this section), provide:

"Section 3. By January 2, 1996, all state agencies shall provide to the governor, the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs, and the director of the Department of State Civil Service a report listing all in-house hearing officers or administrative law judges. The report shall contain information relative to the duties, salaries, physical locations, amount of time spent as a hearing officer or administrative law judge, and the number of said employees who will be subject to transfer under the provisions of this Act. A department or agency operating under a federal mandate which requires in-house hearing officers or administrative law judges shall include in its report federal language mandating the use or employment of such officers or judges.

"Section 4. This Act shall become effective on October 1, 1996. However, the first director shall be appointed on

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TITLE 49. STATE ADMINISTRATION
CHAPTER 13-B. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
PART A. ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

§ 992. Applicability; exemptions

A. (1) Prior to October 1, 1996, the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act [FN1] shall apply to all adjudications as defined by that Act.

(2) On and after October 1, 1996, the division shall commence and handle all adjudications in the manner required by the Administrative Procedure Act provided that the provisions of that Act are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Chapter.

B. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of the law to the contrary except as provided by R.S. 49:967 and the provisions of this Section, all adjudications shall be resolved exclusively as required by the provision of this Chapter and the Administrative Procedure Act.

(2) In an adjudication commenced by the division, the administrative law judge shall issue the final decision or order, whether or not on rehearing, and the agency shall have no authority to override such decision or order.

(3) Nothing in this Section shall affect the right to or manner of judicial appeal in any adjudication, irrespective of whether or not such adjudication is commenced by the division or by an agency. However, no agency or official thereof, or other person acting on behalf of an agency or official thereof, shall be entitled to judicial review of a decision made pursuant to this Chapter.

C. The positions appointed by the director pursuant to this Chapter shall be in the classified service.

D. (1) Except as provided in Paragraphs (2) through (8) of this Subsection, the provisions of this Chapter shall apply to any board, commission, department, or agency of the executive branch of state government.

(2) Any board, commission, department, or agency which is required, pursuant to a federal mandate and as a condition of federal funding, to conduct or to render a final order in an adjudication proceeding shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter to the extent of the federal mandate.

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(3) The office of workers' compensation administration in the Department of Labor shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter.

(4) The office of regulatory services in the Department of Labor shall be exempt from this Chapter.

(5) State professional and occupational licensing boards shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter.

(6) The Department of Agriculture shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter.

(7) All adjudications by the assistant secretary of the office of conservation pursuant to Chapter 1 and 7 of Subtitle 1 of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes [FN2], except determinations of violations of laws, rules, regulations and orders, and determinations of penalties for such violations, shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter.

(8) The Public Service Commission and any entity which by law has its adjudications handled by the Public Service Commission shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter.

E. In the event that a person files a civil action to require that a state department, division, office, agency, board, commission, or other entity of state government conduct an adjudication as required by this Chapter and judgment is rendered in his favor, he shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorney fees to be taxed as costs in the matter.

F. The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to all adjudications as defined in the Administrative Procedure Act pursuant to the Procurement Code. [FN3]

G. Any board or commission authorized by law to conduct hearings may continue to hold such hearings.

CREDIT(S)

Added by Acts 1995, No. 739, § 2, eff. Oct. 1, 1996. Amended by Acts 1997, No. 1172, § 9, eff. June 30, 1997; Acts 1997, No. 1484, § 1, eff. July 16, 1997; Acts 1999, No. 1332, § 1, eff. July 12, 1999; Acts 2001, No. 527, § 1.

[FN1] R.S. 49:950 et seq.

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**LOUISIANA 2003 SESSION LAW SERVICE
2003 Regular Session**

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Additions are indicated by **Text**; deletions by
~~Text~~ or by ~~Text~~.

Vetoed provisions within tabular material are not displayed.

ACT NO. 956

H.B. No. 1388

STATE ADMINISTRATION--DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW--REVISION

BY REPRESENTATIVES LANCASTER AND BOWLER

AN ACT to amend and reenact Chapter 13-B of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 49:991 through 999.25, relative to the creation and operation of a division of administrative law; to provide for the employment, qualifications, duties, and authority of administrative law judges; to provide for exceptions; to make technical changes; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Chapter 13-B of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 49:991 through 999.25, is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 13-B. DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW
PART A. ADMINISTRATIVE LAW**

<< LA R.S. 49:991 >>

§ 991. Creation of division of administrative law

The division of administrative law, hereafter referred to as "division", is created in the Department of State Civil Service.

<< LA R.S. 49:992 >>

§ 992. Applicability; exemptions

A. (1) Prior to October 1, 1996, the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act shall apply to all adjudications as defined by that Act.

(2) On and after October 1, 1996, the division shall commence and handle all adjudications in the manner required by the Administrative Procedure Act provided that the provisions of that Act are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Chapter.

B. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of the law to the contrary except as provided by R.S. 49:967 and the

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provisions of this Section, all adjudications shall be resolved exclusively as required by the ~~provision~~ provisions of this Chapter and the Administrative Procedure Act.

(2) In an adjudication commenced by the division, the administrative law judge shall issue the final decision or order, whether or not on rehearing, and the agency shall have no authority to override such decision or order.

(3) Nothing in this Section shall affect the right to or manner of judicial appeal in any adjudication, irrespective of whether or not such adjudication is commenced by the division or by an agency. However, no agency or official thereof, or other person acting on behalf of an agency or official thereof, shall be entitled to judicial review of a decision made pursuant to this Chapter.

C. The positions appointed by the director pursuant to this Chapter shall be in the classified service.

D. (1) Except as provided in Paragraphs (2) through (8) of this Subsection, the provisions of this Chapter shall apply to any board, commission, department, or agency of the executive branch of state government.

(2) Any board, commission, department, or agency which is required, pursuant to a federal mandate and as a condition of federal funding, to conduct or to render a final order in an adjudication proceeding shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter to the extent of the federal mandate.

(3) The office of workers' compensation administration in the Department of Labor shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter.

(4) The office of regulatory services in the Department of Labor shall be exempt from this Chapter.

(5) State professional and occupational licensing boards shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter.

(6) The Department of Agriculture and Forestry shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter.

(7) All adjudications by the assistant secretary of the office of conservation pursuant to Chapter 1 and 7 of Subtitle 1 of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, except determinations of violations of laws, rules, regulations and orders, and determinations of penalties for such violations, shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter.

(8) The Public Service Commission and any entity which by law has its adjudications handled by the Public Service Commission shall be exempt from the provisions of this Chapter.

E. In the event that a person files a civil action to require that a state department, division, office, agency, board, commission, or other entity of state government conduct an adjudication as required by this Chapter and judgment is rendered in his favor, he shall be entitled to an award of reasonable attorney fees to be taxed as costs in the matter.

F. The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to all adjudications as defined in the Administrative Procedure Act pursuant to the Procurement Code.

G. Any board or commission authorized by law to conduct hearings may continue to hold such hearings.

<< LA R.S. 49:993 >>

§ 993. Definitions; rules

A. The definitions for terms as provided by R.S. 49:951 shall apply to such terms used in this Chapter.

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